

An Update from Fr Greg on Our Parish

Dear Sisters and brothers,

It is with a heavy heart that we need to inform you that in accordance with the latest Commonwealth and State restrictions, Bishop Anthony Randazzo has dispensed with the obligation to attend mass on Sundays and announced that all Masses and other communal devotions, whether inside or outdoors, have been suspended until further notice.

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has had a big impact on our normal way of life: some workplaces are closed, many people have lost their jobs, and others might be uncertain of what the future holds. It is a difficult time for all of us. We feel sad, worried and don't see an immediate answer. However, let us take our inspiration from Jesus who invites us to trust in providence saying: "*That is why I am telling you not to worry about your life and what you are to eat, nor about your body and how you are to clothe it...Look at the birds in the sky. They do not sow or reap...; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they are? Can any of you for all his worrying add one single cubit to his span of life...Set your hearts on his kingdom first, and on his righteousness, and all these things will be given you" (MTh 6:25f). Naturally we stand together and do what we can even though much is outside our control in our fast-changing environment.*

Our parish has not been spared from all these changes. So, our church will remain closed until further notice, but this does not mean our parish has closed. We are just going to have to do things differently. We are going to get through this together, and we are going to come out the other end as a stronger community as our trust in Jesus grows and we support one another as true brothers and sisters in Christ.

Our plans will grow and develop. But this is what we have planned to date:

Mutual Communication

Online Questionnaire

Could I please ask you to complete this on-line questionnaire, in order that we may have mutual communication and keep you up-to-date. Thank you for taking the time to do this and it will help us greatly to keep in touch.

Please go to this link for the on-line questionnaire: <u>http://tiny.cc/Parishioners</u>

If you would like to update your contact details with the office directly, you are welcome to call the office to do this.

Each week, we will send you an update so you know what we are doing and how you can access resources online.

Facebook

Please follow us on Facebook. Search for "Corpus Christi Catholic Church".

Sunday Mass

As a start, our plan this week is to live stream the 10am Sunday Mass on YouTube. We hope to start this on Palm Sunday (5 April) and will confirm this with you next week. This is a new thing for me and I'm not sure quite how to do this, but I'm sure we will work it out. We will have a link in our Website under the Masses tab which you can access. We will advise you by email once it is up and running.

In the meantime:

Hornsby Cathedral Parish has a YouTube Channel where Daily Mass is included. <u>http://tiny.cc/HornsbyParish</u>

Lismore Cathedral Parish with Bishop Greg Homeming has a YouTube Channel where Masses and Lenten talks are included. <u>http://tiny.cc/LismoreDiocese</u>

Although we will go online where possible, where there is a face to face meeting or gathering we need to ensure social distancing and hygiene actions are according to the Government's directive is strictly adhered to.

Parish Website

I invite you to visit our parish website for the most up to date information, and to continue to be involved in our community however you can. This website is currently under construction, but please check back regularly.

https://www.bbcatholic.org.au/stives

Ongoing pastoral care

We would like to know if you are sick, need support (e.g. assistance with getting to the shops, have a prayer intention, etc.), or would like a friendly phone call. Please let the parish team know by calling 9144 6998 or send an email to help@corpuschristi.com.au.

If you have any suggestions about how we can better serve the community, or how you can contribute, please contact the parish office.

God Bless, Fr Greg